To: Greenberg, Ken[Greenberg.Ken@epa.gov]; Kermish, Laurie[Kermish.Laurie@epa.gov]

Cc: Amato, Paul[Amato.Paul@epa.gov]

From: Smith, DavidW

Sent: Tue 12/15/2015 8:57:54 PM

Subject: FW: San Luis Obispo Tribune media request

Just FYI- I think no comment is the appropriate response to this media inquiry. Will be interesting to see Nell Nyland's final paper on third party enforcement to see what it concludes.

David Smith

Manager

NPDES Permits Section (WTR-2-3)

U.S. EPA Region 9

75 Hawthorne Street

San Francisco, CA 94602

(415) 972-3464 (office)

(415) 972-947-3545 (fax)

From: Amato, Paul

Sent: Tuesday, December 15, 2015 12:55 PM

To: Smith, DavidW <Smith.DavidW@epa.gov>; Marincola, JamesPaul

<Marincola.JamesPaul@epa.gov>

Subject: FW: San Luis Obispo Tribune media request

Hi Jamie,

As we discussed, here's the incoming from the reporter regarding the CA River Watch suit against City of SLO for exfiltration and sewage overflows (see page 2 of the letter at the link below).

I'm going to let Nahal know that we do not have any comments on CA River Watch or the success of their litigations.

Paul
Paul F. Amato
Water Division,
Management & Program Analyst/Communications Liaison
U.S. EPA, Region 9
75 Hawthorne Street, WTR-1
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901
t:(415) 972-3847
f:(415) 947-8026
e:amato.paul@epa.gov
From: Mogharabi, Nahal Sent: Tuesday, December 15, 2015 12:25 PM To: Amato, Paul < Amato.Paul@epa.gov > Subject: FW: San Luis Obispo Tribune media request
Hi Paul,
See the below. Have we seen this suit? Do we know anything about this? We usually aren't able to say much about ongoing lawsuits, but let me know what you find, or what we can say if anything.
Thanks!
Nahal

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Fountain, Matt" < <u>mfountain@thetribunenews.com</u>>

Date: December 15, 2015 at 2:44:26 PM EST

To: Press < press@epa.gov >

Subject: San Luis Obispo Tribune media request

To Whom it May Concern,

I'm trying to speak to an agency spokesperson regarding the environmental group California River Watch, which is threatening to sue the City of San Luis Obispo over alleged violations of the Clean Water Act.

This group has a long history of filing suit against small municipalities over water violations, and claim to be stewards of the Clean Water Act. These suits usually end in an undisclosed settlement with questions remaining about whether the violations were ever there.

Here is the group http://www.ncriverwatch.org/

And here you'll see their history of lawsuits https://www.google.com/webhp?sourceid=chrome-instant&ion=1&espv=2&ie=UTF-8#q=california%20river%20watch

Here's what they sent SLO: http://www.ncriverwatch.org/legal/case_pdfs/2015-10-08 san luis obispo cwa notice.pdf

I guess my question is, whether the agency has any comment on this group, and if they have been successful in correcting significant violators of the Clean Water Act.

Thanks, my deadline is 6 pm PST.

-
Matt Fountain

Staff Writer

San Luis Obispo Tribune

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